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US Treasury Secretary steps down



Timothy Geithner

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Timothy Geithner left the US Treasury yesterday knowing the world's largest economy, in freefall when he took office four years ago, has turned around and returned to the path of growth.

But Geithner, who steps down as treasury secretary, also leaves a massive burden of debt and deficits, the cost of rescuing a imploding financial system that even the best experts did not comprehend at the time.

In saving the banks, 51-year-old Geithner bears the stigma of having used taxpayer

money to protect -- some critics say reward -- the reckless Wall Street behavior that caused the crisis.

From fights inside the White House over who to save, to pressing European counterparts to act, to fending off political attacks, the combative secretary nettled during the rockiest period for finance since the early 1930s collapse.

But, perhaps more than anyone save the Federal Reserve's Ben Bernanke, he can claim credit for saving the economy.

Geithner had said he would leave the department after the conclusion of Obama's first four-year term. The president was sworn in on Sunday for a second term.

Obama has nominated longtime Washington insider Jack Lew, his current chief of staff, to succeed Geithner. His nomination requires Senate approval.

Deputy treasury secretary Neal Wolin is to serve as acting secretary pending Lew's confirmation.

Geithner's departure comes amid a major reshuffling of Obama's cabinet for his second term.

Aruba crowns new Child and Youth Queens Edylienne Tromp and Kiziah Trimon



New Queens Kiziah Trimon of Champagne and Edylienne Tromp of Noord.

Some of the most spectacular events surrounding the revelry of carnival is the selection of the queens who will reign supreme during the final parades and parties. On Thursday evening, January 24, two panels of judges selected Aruba's 38th Child (Infantil) and 50th Youth (Hubenil) Queens during the thrilling pageant conducted at Aruba Entertainment Center.

Candidates are judged and awarded in a number of categories, including Best Show, Best Speech and Best Costume. Elaborate programs during which the contenders demonstrate their grace, dancing ability and carnival spirit provide a full and exciting evening of entertainment.

This year, five young girls competed for the children's title and four sought the crown of 50th Youth Queen. Competing for the honor of being Aruba's 38th Children's Queen were Mileishka Lopez from Oranjestad, Randerly Trimon for TOB Kids, Edylienne Tromp of Centro

di Barrio Noord, Zue-Jean Croes from District Dakota and Alenis Williams representing Nos Futuro Carnival Group.

The four young ladies competing for the 50th Youth Queen title were: Kiziah Trimon of Champagne Carnival Group, Shakira de Freitas from Royal Carnival Group, Shaghira Robert of the District Dakota and Adrienne Jacobs representing TOB Carnival Group.

Edylienne Tromp dominated almost all categories in the Child Queen pageant. She was awarded the titles of Most Popular (via SMS voting), Best Costume, Best Show and SETAR "Little Princess," before being named Aruba's new queen. Randerly Trimon of TOB Group won Best Speech and Zue-Jean Croes from District Dakota was named First Runner-up.

Continued on page 4



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Hundreds celebrate the silver anniversary of Arturo Werleman heading the SVGA



A gift from Special Olympics



Tuyo with his many sisters, son and daughter in law

The organization that cares for Aruba's mentally challenged, Stichting voor Verstandelijk Gehandicapten Aruba, SVGA, or the Foundation for the Mentally Disabled, celebrated together a milestone event on

Thursday morning, January 24.

It was in 1988 that Arturo Daniel Werleman was named Director of the foundation, with the intention of implementing a plan to revolutionize the care of Aruba's special

people, while re-educating the community as to their value and place.

Arturo, popularly known as "Tuyo," had trained in Holland and worked as a nurse, then finally received a degree in Social Psychology, which he practiced in Holland. He returned to his home island of Aruba and took a job as a civil servant. In 1987, he was sent to study and assess the existing programs of the SVGA. "At that time there were only three centers operating for Aruba's mentally challenged," he recalls, "which basically just kept them busy during the working day. Their world was closed and they were kept apart from the community."

Arturo Werleman fought many battles to see an additional four centers come into existence, with the capabilities of the "clients" reassessed and redirected towards mainstreaming and productively contributing to the community. In 1988, there were only three care centers, now there are seven, including two community homes where the more capable adults live under minimal supervision. They learn the skills to lead fulfilling adult lives, something that was not available to them before.

Job training was introduced as part of the program. When Werleman took on the stewardship of the SVGA, none of their clients held jobs, now they have nearly 50 out of 230 mainstreaming in the work force. "I have to express my gratitude to Ewald Biemans, who was GM of the Manchebo Beach Hotel at the time. He opened that door by taking on the mentally challenged to his staff, and now they can be found working in most hotels and other industries." They also have over 60 clients doing volunteer work with other foundations; demonstrating they can be a viable asset to



Head of Volunteers Netty Williams and Tuyo with Jeffery and Indra



their community.

In 2000, SVGA established a separate foundation, the Special Olympics Committee. Each year, they stage national games, providing incentive and enforcement within their clients to strive to be their best. They often welcome special athletes from other countries, creating relationships and

making friends around the world. They have had teams participate in the International Special Olympics held every four years since 2001, allowing their athletes to experience world travel and prove themselves in the international arena.

Continued on page 3



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Tuyo Werleman...

Continued from page 2

Each time they have returned with multiple gold, silver and bronze medals, competing with thousands of athletes from hundreds of countries, with strict standards, just as in the regular world games.

During the morning's celebration at Club Caquetio in Paradera, Arturo Werleman was honored by members of each of the various centers over which he administrates. Staffers and clients alike praised the patience and individual interest demonstrated to each of them by the man they affectionately call "Papa." He was showered with gifts, original songs of thanks for his unceasing efforts to advance Aruba's system for its special people, and the perceptions of the community regarding what they can truly accomplish. Werelman expressed his gratitude to his dedicated staffers, including Head of Volunteers Netty Williams and Karel Williams of the Special Olympics Committee, as well as center administrators. "It is by having this tireless and expert staff, who gives their all every day for our clients, that I have been able to accomplish what I have," cites Werleman.

Rosalie Klein

The 2013 charming Chevrolet Trax is on display at Stern

According to Stern N.V., Aruba now has a brand new SUV made especially for our type of infrastructure - a small SUV to take you wherever you want to go. Stern and Chevrolet are proud to present their ultimate creation, one that has created a new segment in the automotive industry. This is a vehicle that surpasses all others especially in our region. The SUV has an audacious design and surpasses all other SUV crossovers. It has a wide stance and better technological traction, which includes an All-Wheel Drive - this makes it capable to be managed over all terrains during the course of a day.

The Chevrolet Trax comes with a standard turbo motor of 1.4L ECOTEC, which gives it a high level of efficiency in gasoline consumption.

Show room observers tell us that the Chevrolet Trax has



the correct size, offering comfortable seating for five persons. Comfort, combined with style creates the 'right feel.' Truthfully, comments from observers indicate that it has the perfect fit and complies with the expectations of all those who waited for this vehicle.

One of the most interesting characteristics is found on the LTZ model which offers an interactive sound system

MyLink. The system

offers you the additional facility of placing all your things within arm's reach. It contains several series of handy compartments. The Trax

also comes with ten standard

airbags which offers you an unprecedented level of security. The LTZ model offers you an extra musical kick to your trip.

The Trax LTZ model comes with a standard package consisting of a CD player, MP3 playback and Bluetooth audio streaming. From the interactive sound system of the Chevrolet MyLink you get access to your favorite music as well as the use of apps - such as Stitcher and Smart Radio - all accessible from your Smartphone.

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Stern N.V. is the exclusive representative of the renowned Chevrolet on Aruba. For more information you may call 582-3838 or visit them at Tanki

Leendert 122 or on facebook: Chevrolet Aruba.



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Aruba crowns new Child and Youth Queens ...

Continued from page 1



**First runner up Shakira de Freitas
of Royal Carnival Group**



Best Speech Randerly Trimon of TOB



Best Show and Speech Shakira de Freitas



Adrianne Jacobs of TOB



Shaghira Robert of Dakota.

Kiziah Trimon of Champagne Group was awarded Most Popular, Best Costume and SETAR Youth Queen before being crowned Aruba's golden anniversary Youth Queen. Shakira de Freitas won Best Show and Best Speech prior to being named First Runner-up.

Two more queens have yet to be selected, Mrs. Carnival, for Aruba's gorgeous and mature ladies, and the final Grand Queen Election coming up on Friday, February 1.

Rosalie Klein



Runner up Zue-Jean Croes



Carnaval Schedule

JANUARY

SAT. 26

7 p.m. - **Aruba's 43rd Grand Tumba Contest 2013** (Aruba Entertainment Center)

SUN. 27

10 am - **Transfer of Command of Carnaval by Prime Minister to Prince & Pancho** (San Nicolas Tourist Office)

12 noon - **Children's Parade San Nicolas**

MON. 28

7:30 p.m. - **Aruba's 19th Mrs. Carnival Election** (Aruba's Entertainment Center)



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Government announces plans for labor market investigations in 2013

ORANJESTAD -- During a recent press conference, the government announced plans for different investigations of the local labor market with the view of improving our labor force. The Labor Force Survey conducted in 2011 provided us with important data, and in 2012 another such investigation was conducted of the labor force.

According to the government, the results of the 2011-2012 surveys indicated that the trend, as of 2009, up to the present is that the unemployment rate was 10% at that time. This figure currently stands at 8%. Within a matter of weeks we should have the results of the "Labor market model." This will create a model with formulas that will allow us to measure what is necessary in the labor force for the different periods of the year.

On the labor force with respect to women in the work force, The DAO will submit a report on this in February. The government also announced that this year they will begin an investigation on the phenomena of "cheap labor." They want to ascertain in which sectors of the labor force this is taking place and how strong this is in the Aruban labor force.

The second investigation will consist of different

points but the intention is to find ways to increase participation in the labor force. This will be defined in five sub-divisions. The intention is to create opportunities for different groups that are not currently being considered to become active in the labor force.

According to the government, another study will be to determine on what conditions employees are working so that they can implement an Health and safety legislation to create protection for both employee as well as indirectly employers on the job. A fourth project of the government will be to create possibilities for employees to become more productive on the job. This project will be undertaken together with DAO (Department Of Labor).

The government wants to ensure, with these investigations that the labor force is reinforced by the changes in the new labor law. All the changes are designed to guarantee and protect each worker. The changes are also designed to help those who currently are not working for one or other reason who would be protected by the law once we have a better view of the concrete figures with respect to the different points of the investigations.



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Supreme Audit Bureau publishes results of investigation

ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba Supreme Audit Bureau recently published the results of their findings of an investigation conducted during November 5th and 30th of 2012. The investigation concerned the management of the government regarding the formalization of tasks and responsibilities of departments, directories and bureaus of the different ministries. The investigation was actually a continuation of a previous investigation by the supreme audit bureau on the public sector which report was published in December 2011.

The Supreme Audit Bureau has noted that the government has given the formalization of tasks and responsibilities in their departments much attention, particularly those depart-

ments and directories that lacked a formal governmental decree.

New departments were created without the formalization of tasks and responsibilities. This brought risks with it which caused the disbursement of tasks and responsibilities among the different departments to be less than optimal. The consequence of this meant double work, lack of responsibilities, inefficiency in operation, and an eventual increase in cost.

The Supreme Audit Bureau has advised the government to continue to give this matter their attention but in a more formal and integral structure so as to minimize the risks pointed out by the Supreme Audit Bureau. An essential aspect is to reach an agreement on a political level as to what are the tasks and

principal responsibilities of each department and to use this as the basis for a chosen management structure. In his reaction to the results of the investigation of the Supreme Audit Bureau, the Minister of General Affairs indicated that he is in agreement with the Supreme Audit Bureau that all government departments should have a formal governmental decree for each department that do not already have this.

The Supreme Audit Bureau has advised the Minister to provide more concrete information concerning this matter of decrees and how soon they should expect results from this. The letter containing the results of this investigation is published on the government's website: www.gobierno.aw.

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Mozambique floods kill 36, displace tens of thousands



People that managed to escape the floods are gathered in Maputo

MAPUTO (AFP) - Flooding in Mozambique has killed at least 36 people and displaced nearly 70,000, the United Nations said Friday, as residents

braced for a fresh storm surge.

"A total of 26 persons have died in (the worst affected southern province of)

Gaza alone, with the nationwide death toll at 36," the UN in Mozambique said in a statement.

The number of displaced people now stood at 67,995 while nearly 85,000 have been affected by the raging waters in recent days, the UN said, urging donors to urgently make more funds available "to help deal with this emergency" in the impoverished southeast African nation.

Meanwhile, severe flooding continued to spread across the south of the country with the Mozambique government, international agencies and neighbouring South Africa scrambling to ease the humanitarian disaster.

The floods are a result of week-long torrential rains in South Africa and Zimbabwe that swelled the Limpopo river forcing an orange alert on January 12, when the toll began.

But the full impact of the rains were only now being felt.

An AFP reporter on the scene saw thousands of residents who had fled their homes stuck on road sides leading out of devastated towns, surviving on scarce aid and in some cases forced to eat grasshoppers.

Their plight was only expected to worsen as intense rains were forecast for the weekend.

In the tourist coastal city of Xai-Xai, spared until Friday, up to eight metres of water (26 feet) was expected to hit.

"The water is coming into the city. It is just starting. Some roads in the lower part of town are under water," said government spokesman Joao Carlos. "The situation is not very good."

India needs to 'reset moral compass': president

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India's president said Friday it was time for the country to "reset its moral compass" in the wake of the savage gang rape and murder of a student last month that ignited nationwide protests.

Speaking on the eve of India's Republic Day celebrations, President Pranab Mukherjee called the 23-year-old woman's death a "grave tragedy" that has shattered the country's complacency.

"The brutal rape and murder of a young woman, a woman who was symbol of all that new India strives to be, has left our hearts empty and our minds in turmoil," he said in a nationwide televised address.

"We lost more than a valuable life -- we lost a dream. If today young Indians feel outraged, can we blame our youth?," he asked.

Five men are on trial in New Delhi for murder and gang rape while a sixth has said he is under 18 and that his case should be heard in juvenile court.

The promising student, who was studying physio-

therapy, was assaulted with an iron rod in the attack that sparked street protests.

She died of massive internal injuries nearly two weeks after the December 16 attack.

"When we brutalise a woman, we wound the soul of our nation," the president said.

"It is time for the nation to reset its moral compass... We must look deep into our conscience and find out where we have faltered."

In a wide-ranging speech, he also referred to corruption besetting India's political scene and the need for economic equality in the country of 1.2 billion people.

"Elected representatives must win back people's confidence," he said.

"We must ensure the fruits of economic growth do not become the monopoly of the privileged at the peak of a pyramid," he added.

"The primary purpose of wealth creation must be to drive out the evil of hunger."

Saturday marks Republic Day -- the date in 1950 when India's new constitution came into effect.

Chic Clinton's cool in her new specs



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Hillary Clinton has been a noted trailblazer in her lengthy political career -- but now she's joining the growing fashion for cool nerd glasses.

Many have been surprised to see the US top diplomat sporting black, thick-framed glasses since she returned to work from an

illness, concussion and blood clot at the beginning of January.

And during seven hours of testimony to US lawmakers on Wednesday, she used them to great advantage, at times fixing a Republican questioner with a withering stare during a heated exchange, or flirtatiously adjusting them when she was lavished with compliments by her Democratic allies.

As any schoolgirl will tell you, nerd glasses are one of the latest fashion accessories.

But top aide, Philippe Reines, confirms Clinton, 65, has taken to wearing the glasses as a result of the concussion she suffered in early December.

"She'll be wearing these glasses instead of her contacts for a period of time because of lingering issues stemming from her concussion. With them on she sees just fine," Reines said in a statement.

The US secretary of state, who is expected to step down within days handing over the baton to her designated successor Senator John Kerry, was hospitalized for several days over New Year's Eve.



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Surprise in Benghazi over Western evacuation orders

BENGHAZI, Libya (AFP) - Calls from several Western governments urging their citizens to evacuate Benghazi have surprised diplomats and Libyan officials who say there is no need for alarm despite chronic unrest in the eastern city.

"Everyone is asking... why this alarm all at once," said Jean Dufriche, the French honorary consul in Benghazi, adding that he had to heed his government's instructions and leave the city.

Speaking to AFP by telephone, Dufriche said rumours by radical Islamists aimed at "forcing foreigners to leave Benghazi" spread like quick fire, causing a chain reaction in Western capitals where governments told their nationals to evacuate.

"If the goal of Islamists was to empty Benghazi of foreign nationals, then they won," he added.

On Friday, France took Britain's lead in pulling some 40 nationals out of Benghazi because of a terrorist threat believed to be linked to France's military intervention in Mali.

Germany, the Netherlands and Australia have also urged their citizens to leave Benghazi, cradle of the uprising that toppled dictator Moamer Kadhafi in 2011 but also the city where a US ambassador was killed in an attack in September.

US Ambassador Chris

Stevens and three other Americans were killed when dozens of heavily armed Al Qaeda-linked militants overran the American consulate and a nearby CIA-run annex.

Britain closed its mission in Benghazi at around the same time and there were thought to be only a handful of Britons left in the city when the first warning was issued on Thursday.

"We are now aware of a specific and imminent threat to Westerners in Benghazi, and urge any British nationals who remain there against our advice to leave immediately," the Foreign Office in London said in a statement.

Britain's warning sparked an angry response from Libya's government, which said there was "no new intelligence" to justify such concerns in the city.

Libya said it has yet to be informed by any Western country of their intention to evacuate citizens and would demand an explanation.

"There has been no formal notice to us from any other country of its intention to evacuate its citizens from the city of Benghazi," an interior ministry source was quoted as saying by LANA news agency.

Deputy Interior Minister Abdullah Massud expressed "astonishment" at the warnings and criticised London for "causing all the commotion and excitement."

Dufriche, a doctor who has been heading a department at the Benghazi medical centre for several years, said the decisions to pull out Western nationals was "hasty" because so far there were no "alarming signals" to justify it.

Libya's prime minister called the Western nations reaction an "exaggeration."

"I think that there was exaggeration on behalf of some countries, who took some preventive measures and we can understand that," Ali Zeidan told a panel at the World Economic Forum in the Swiss ski resort of Davos.

"But the reality is that these people of foreign nationality live very peacefully in Libya and there are security measures to protect them," he said.

On Friday it was business as usual at Benghazi airport and hotels in the city, including the flagship Tibesti which was running at full occupancy, an AFP correspondent said.

But the city's International School and another European establishments have been closed since Wednesday and four Western teachers at the European school have left the city, an official said.

A diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there were only a few dozen Westerners in Benghazi, stressing however that those who left had done so well before Britain's warning on Thursday.

Obama to push immigration reform next week

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama will travel to the state of Nevada next week to push for rapid immigration reform, one of his top priorities for the next four years, the White House said Friday.

During the trip, his first since being sworn in this week for a second term, Obama will "redouble the efforts to work with Congress to fix the broken immigration system this year," the White House said.

US envoy: 'Very strong consensus' with China on N. Korea

BEIJING (AFP) - The United States and China have "achieved a very strong degree of consensus" on North Korea, US envoy Glyn Davies said Friday after meetings in Beijing following Pyongyang saying it planned another nuclear test.

"We come here in the wake of some dramatic steps," he told reporters in Beijing. Referring to the North's earlier threat to take "physical counter-measures" against the South, he added that the comments were "troubling and counter-productive".

Davies, the US special representative for North Korea policy, said he had had wide-ranging discussions with Chinese officials on "all aspects of the North Korea issue", adding that the meeting "achieved a very strong degree of consensus".

Both sides agreed that "a nuclear test would be troubling and a setback to the efforts to denuclearise the

Korean peninsula", he said.

They also agreed that UN resolution 2087, passed earlier this week expanding sanctions against Pyongyang, was an "appropriate response and an important and strong response" to the North's rocket launch last month.

As North Korea's main economic lifeline, China is seen as the only country with any genuine leverage over the impoverished, isolated and nuclear-armed state -- although Pyongyang has long-played on Chinese fears of the consequences of North Korea's collapse to defy Beijing's efforts.

The UN resolution was the product of long negotiations between Washington and Beijing, with envoys saying China had sought to shield Pyongyang from stronger sanctions.

In an unusually frank warning on Friday, China's state-run media indicated that Beijing would decrease aid to Pyongyang if it goes ahead with an atomic test.



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Syringes, surgery and slaps: Thais suffer for beauty



Breasts to bums, Thais suffer in pursuit of beauty

BANGKOK (AFP) - From breast-slapping and gold thread face-lifts, to vaginal whitening soaps and olive oil penis enlargements, image obsessed Thais are going to ever increasing extremes in the quest for beauty.

The colourful self-proclaimed pioneer of breast-slapping says her unusual technique allows clients to boost their bust by at least one bra size without surgery.

"This is the beauty by nature -- one million percent guaranteed," the eccentric 46-year-old, who has changed her name to Khuny-ingtobnom or Madam breast-

slapper, told AFP.

Her work is also extremely lucrative, charging \$600 for two 15 minute sessions covering one breast each and a premium face-slapping service -- which she claims can induce slimness -- costing about \$1,000.

In a country where ideals of beauty carry particular weight, even in notoriously image-conscious Asia, it is not only women who are seeking to enhance what nature has provided.

Alarming high numbers of Thai men inject olive oil, beeswax, silicone and even paraffin into their genitals, in

a misguided bid to enlarge their penises, according to one Bangkok urologist.

Skin lesions or serious infections are commonly the result, said Surat Kittisupaporn of the Police General Hospital, which sees up to 300 patients a month after botched penis treatments.

In the worst case, Surat was forced to remove a 50-year-old man's genitals in November after he repeatedly injected olive oil into his penis.

The pursuit of an ideal beauty has a long history in the nation, according to Professor Suwirakorn Ophaswongse, of the

Dermatological Society of Thailand.

"It starts from the belief that aristocrats should have white skin and people with dark skin are lower class," she said.

The influence of Korean pop culture has hastened the pace -- and boosted the numbers -- of those dashing to the cosmetic surgeon, she said, as Thais now seek to recreate the surgically enhanced, doll-like appeal of their 'K-pop' idols.

Illegal, backstreet cosmetic surgery clinics are cashing-in on that desire and increasing the risks.

For the city's strutting

elite, known as Hi-Sos (High Society), more upmarket treatments are widely available, for the right price.

Anywhere between \$13,000 and \$200,000 will pay for gold thread face implants, a tradition apparently stretching back to ancient Egypt which its adherents believe tightens and brightens the skin.

The treatment involves strips of near-pure gold being sewn into the skin forming a mesh which stimulates the body to produce collagen, thus keeping the skin supple, says Maciej Lichaj, a Polish gold thread aesthetician at the clinic.

Women take more boardroom seats in 2012: EU



BRUSSELS (AFP) - Female representation in company boardrooms took an appreciable step forward in 2012, the European Union said on Friday.

With gender equality being pushed by EU managers as a priority issue, new figures published by the Eu-

ropean Commission showed that women held 15.8 percent of company directorships in January 2013.

That was up from 13.7 percent in January last year.

The share of boardroom seats held by women rose in all 27 EU states with the exception of Poland, Ireland and Bulgaria, the data showed.

EU Justice Commissioner Viviane Reding, a fierce advocate of equality for women, said pressure from Brussels was bearing fruit, with women already making up 60 percent of all EU university graduates.

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SCI-TECH

US backs adding teeth to global shark protection



United Nations (AFP) - The United States said Friday it would support proposals to curb the trade of five shark species and manta rays, whose numbers are declining because of demand for fins and gills.

US Fish and Wildlife

Service Director Dan Ashe will lead a delegation to Bangkok in March to attend a conference of parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which is set to consider the new measures.

Shark fins are in high demand, particularly in Asia, where they are sought after for their culinary and medicinal value. Manta Rays are harvested for their gill plates, used in homeopathic remedies.

The new restrictions would apply to manta rays and five shark species -- the porbeagle, scalloped hammerhead, great hammerhead, smooth hammerhead, and oceanic whitetip -- and must be approved by two-thirds of member states.

World's biggest nuke plant may shut: Japan report

TOKYO (AFP) - The largest nuclear power plant in the world may be forced to shut down under tightened rules proposed by Japan's new nuclear watchdog aimed at safeguarding against earthquakes, a report said Friday.

Fukushima operator Tokyo Electric Power's vast Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant in central Japan could be on the chopping block if the Nuclear Regulation Authority expands the definition of an active fault.

The movement of a fault - a crack in the earth's crust - can generate massive earthquakes like the one that sparked a tsunami that slammed into the Fukushima Daiichi plant in March 2011, setting off the worst atomic crisis in a generation.

The watchdog is planning to define an active fault as one that moved any time within the past 400,000 years, rather than the current 120,000 to 130,000-year limit, an official told AFP, which could spell the end of

the TEPCO plant.

"The new guidelines will be put into effect in July, and then we will re-evaluate the safety of each of Japan's nuclear plants," said the NRA official, adding no decisions would be made until the new

rules were in place.

At least two "non-active" faults underneath the site's reactors could be ensnared by the new definition, forcing its closure, according to a report in the mass-circulation Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper on Friday.

Indonesia bid to control rain to avert more floods

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AFP) - Indonesian authorities will use generators and cloud-seeding measures to defuse and push away rain-laden clouds to avoid more flooding that has paralysed Jakarta, an official said Friday.

Heavy rain over the megacity last week caused 32 deaths and at its peak forced nearly 46,000 people to flee their inundated homes, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman for the National Disaster Mitigation Agency, told AFP.

The weather agency has forecast heavy rain for January 26-28, raising concerns that Jakarta -- which combined with its satellite cities is home to 20 million people -- may get submerged again.

To avoid such flooding a team led by the artificial rain unit of the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology will Saturday start deploying 20 ground-based acetone generators in western Jakarta, in a bid to avert condensation in the region that contributes to larger rain clouds.

The artificial rain unit will also deploy a Hercules plane to carry out cloud seeding measures to force approaching clouds to rain in the ocean before they arrive over the capital, unit head Tri Handoko Seto said.

"We are trying our best to modify the rain to not fall heavily on Jakarta as well as forcing the rainclouds to rain in the sea, or in areas outside Jakarta Seto told AFP by telephone.

Amazon speaks for Kindle Fire with Ivona buy

kindle fire

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Internet retail colossus Amazon.com this past week announced the purchase of a text-to-speech technology company in a move evidently aimed at ramping up the capabilities of its Kindle Fire tablet computers.

Amazon did not disclose financial terms of the deal to buy Poland-based Ivona Software, which it said already powers text-to-speech, Voice Guide, and Explore by

Touch features on Kindle Fire tablets.

"The Ivona team shares our passion for innovation and customer obsession," Amazon Kindle vice president Dave Limp said in a release.

"We look forward to building great products to deliver world-class voice solutions to customers around the world."

Kindle Fire competes in a booming tablet arena with rivals including Apple and Google.

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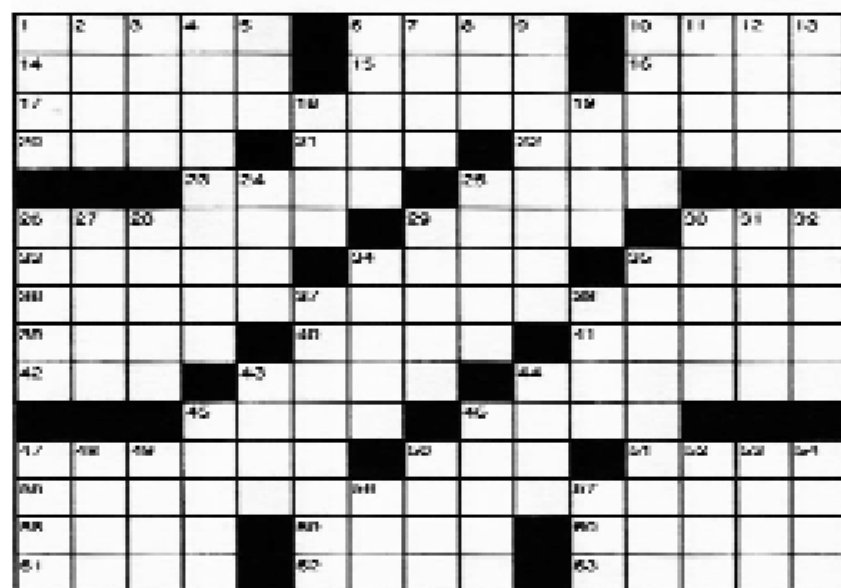
1. Aristocrat
6. —a-brac
10. One of Eve's sons
14. Tracts
15. Riley's life
16. Colonel Mustard's game
17. 1988 Rock Hudson film
20. Zippy
21. Group
22. Sharecropper, e.g.
23. Hajak et al.
26. Achievement
28. Mountain dew device
29. Unit in reverse
30. Negative prefix
33. Atmospheres
34. Sugarcane

DOWN

35. Irish periodical
36. 1986 Paul Hogan film
39. Sign of roadwork
40. Bullfight cheers
41. Position
42. Sounds of pain
43. "Lang Syne"
44. English river
45. Church vestments
46. Mother of Polux
47. Stellar
50. — de la Plata
51. Doesn't count
55. 1964 Katharine Hepburn film
58. Actor Lucius

DOWN

1. Inexperienced person
2. Kalle of "Free Willy," e.g.
3. Pollinators
4. Cellar-dweller's position
5. Estimated guess; abbr.
6. Certain rays
7. Mud ben
8. Personnel ad abbr.
9. Like a bull's-eye
10. Hound's trail
11. Napoleon lived here
12. Refract
13. Use the microwave
18. Some condense abbr.
19. Arder
24. Residue
25. Circuit
26. Vannetti's partner
27. "Personal Injuries" author Scott
28. Actor Jeremy
29. Hooped
30. "Golden Touch" guy
31. One of the Horae
32. Unsuavory
34. Disquieting
35. Got aboard
37. Gold coin
38. Not new
43. Jan —
44. Sound at the vet's
46. Where Van Gogh painted "Sunflowers"
48. Wrinkles
49. "— boy!"
48. "Pygmalion" playwright
49. Marie's head
50. Civil unrest
52. Narrowly town
53. At no time, to a bird
54. Palm, e.g.
55. Leopeter's language; abbr.
57. A Gershwain



Answer on page 110

BOTICA

DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS

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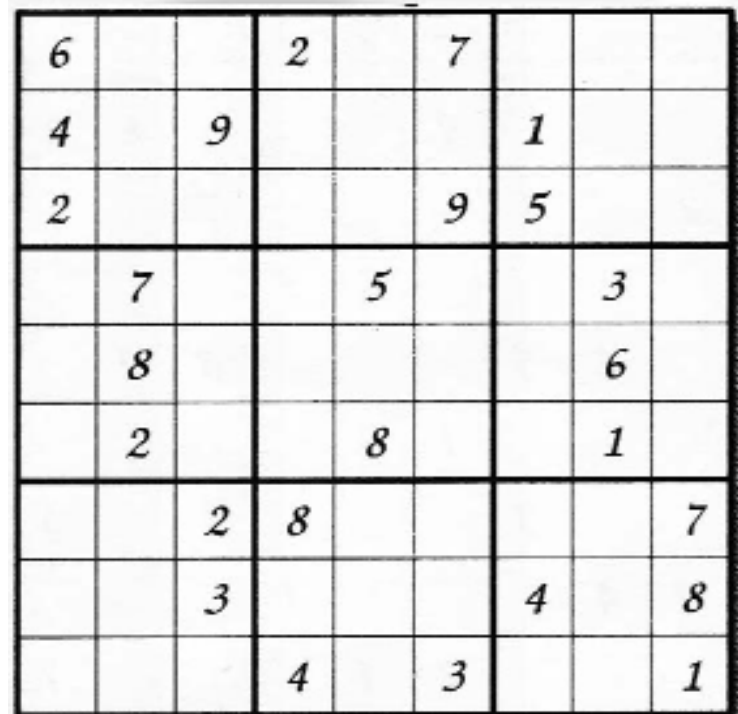
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	6	7	5	2	1	3	4	9
2	3	1	9	4	8	7	5	6
4	9	2	1	3	5	6	8	7
7	8	5	2	9	1	4	6	3
9	8	6	7	5	2	1	3	4
2	1	8	9	4	6	5	7	3
5	4	3	1	7	8	9	2	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Procter & Gamble raises outlook on soaring profit

NEW YORK (AFP) - Procter & Gamble reported yesterday profit more than doubled in the fiscal second quarter from a year ago, beating market expectations, and raised its forecasts for the year.

The US consumer goods giant said profit jumped 140 percent due to strong productivity gains and the effects of cost-saving efforts.

Net income rose to \$4.1 billion, or \$1.39 per share, compared with the year-ago figure of \$1.7 billion, or 57 cents per share, the company said.

The results were well above analyst expectations.

Core earnings per share, which strips out special items and other items not related to sustainable earnings, were

\$1.22, sharply more than the \$1.11 estimated.

Revenues came in at \$22.18 billion, above the \$21.91 billion forecast by analysts.

Shares in the Dow member were up 3.5 percent at \$72.87 in late-afternoon trade in New York.

Procter & Gamble, which manufactures Pampers diapers, Head and Shoulders shampoo and other household products, said its growth was broad-based and that all five of its business segments grew organic sales by at least two percent.

The biggest growth came in the company's baby care and family care segment with 5 percent.

Investors, entrepreneurs look for big pot payday

When Washington state voters passed a law legalizing marijuana, they boosted prospects for entrepreneurs around the world pursuing opportunities in the cannabis business. About 10 startups will be gathering in Seattle for a quarterly investors meeting, organized by The ArcView Group, a San Francisco-based cannabis industry consulting firm founded in 2010 that has an "angel" investor network focused on that market. About 25 investors will attend, with an interest in participating in the marijuana gold rush that some are hoping for. Washington state voters passed Initiative 502 in November, but it remains unclear how the state law will work with federal law prohibiting marijuana use. Gov. Jay Inslee and Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson were in Washington, D.C., recently to meet with the Justice Department on the issue, but that didn't result in a lot of clarity. Still, Inslee has instructed the state to move forward in creating rules for production, distribution and retail sales of marijuana in Washington state. Despite any uncertainty, the investors meeting has attracted the interest of people from around the country, and even internationally.



AHATA attends the 2013 Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association's Caribbean Travel Marketplace



From top Neville Every, Area Director North America ATA, Jim Hepple, CEO AHATA, Adwina Arends, Manager Coop Marketing North America ATA, Sanju Luidens, Chief Marketing officer ATA, Ronella Tjin Asjoe Croes, CEO ATA meeting with Brett Minzer, Market Manager Latin America & Caribbean Expedia and Jeslian Pettinari also of Expedia.

ORANJESTAD -- On Monday and Tuesday January 21st and 22nd AHATA, together with senior management of the ATA and many hoteliers and allied members from Aruba, attended the CHTA's annual Caribbean Travel Marketplace held this year at Paradise Island in The Bahamas.

This year's event saw a total of 131 buyers from 20 different countries looking to meet with Caribbean hoteliers, airlines, destination management companies as well as tourist boards.



Buyers meet with Tiara Air and Manchebo Beach Resort.



Buyer meeting with Ewald Biemans and Tisa LaSorte of Bucuti and Tara Beach resort

Buyers came from as far afield as China, Russia, Poland, and Argentina as well as from more traditional source markets such

Apple loses 'world's most valuable company' title

Apple surrendered the title of the world's most valuable company to Exxon Mobil after concern over slowing growth drove the shares to the biggest loss in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index.

Apple's 12-month reign as the No. 1 stock ended after the shares slumped 18 percent this year, worse than any other companies in the benchmark gauge for US equities. The decline reduced its market capitalization to \$US412 billion, below Exxon Mobil's

\$US417 billion.

The switch in rankings reflected fading confidence in Apple, whose 15 years of transformation from a near-bankrupt personal-computer maker to a technology leader dominating the smartphone and tablet market helped it become the most valuable US company ever in 2012. Apple shares have fallen by 37 percent from a record in September amid concern that mounting costs and competition may curtail growth.

as the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, France, Spain and Scandinavia. On the supplier side there were 707 delegates representing 273 different Caribbean hotels, airlines, DMCs as well as tourist boards.

The Aruba delegation was comprised of ATA's senior management as well as Jim Hepple, President and CEO of AHATA, who met with 30 different companies over the two days to discuss current trends in the market as well as finalizing co-operative marketing programs for 2013.

The general feeling

amongst most North American tour operators was that business was picking up and that Aruba could look forward to a good year from the USA and Canada. Tour operators from Europe were less positive citing the difficult economic climate in many countries.

The event was also attended by representatives from the Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort, Bucuti and Tara Beach Resorts, Divi Resorts, Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, The Mill Resort, the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, the Aruba Holiday Inn Sunspree, the Aruba Hyatt, the Aruba Marriott, the Aruba Renaissance, Tierra del Sol, as well as De Palm Tours and Tiara Air.

THURSDAY'S Crossword Answer

AMMO	GRAM	PARK
KIEV	HULA	MELON
INGE	ANON	ORATE
NEARSIGHTED	NEW	
SEN	AIDE	
ADMIRER	SIR	DAS
BRIGADES	ENSURE	
OATH	WAD	ICED
DIETER	DELEGATE	
ENS	ROD	LIGHTER
	ABEL	NOT
ALL	SECONDS	SIGHT
QUOTE	ABES	NOAH
UMPED	NANA	GAZA
APED	TREY	SLEW

Brickell Bay Sand Beach lounge featuring live music this Sunday



--Aruba's newest lounge, Brickell Bay Sand Beach, in Palm Beach, created quite a stir with its recent opening, revealing a chic, unique environment that has strongly attracted island fashionistas as a relaxed, elegant place to while away the evening hours.

The new eatery/nightclub has live music twice weekly, and this Sunday will feature one of the island's most popular and dynamic entertainers of the last decade, Marisela and the Aquarius Band. She is back on Aruba for a limited engagement and will be appearing every Sunday through January at Brickell Bay Sand Beach Lounge.



Marisela will be heating up Palm Beach for a very cool night each weekend beginning this Sunday, January 6, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This is a performer known for "bringing

down the house," so don't miss this rare opportunity to enjoy some great entertainment and discover Aruba's most stylish new nightspot. Every Wednesday, The Ryders will be rockin' the house from 9:00 PM until midnight. Enjoy



two for one drinks on all brands, even premium, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM every Monday through Thursday, and from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Fri-

day and Saturday, with an additional late night "Happy Hour" on the weekends from 10:00 to 11:00 PM.



Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varela Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal

clientele. Varela's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients

that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses range from Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin each in-



Varela, Luisa and the next generation of chef

cluding a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way

to truly eat like a local. **They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily**, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest



Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to

countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are al-



ready enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, tak-

ing full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards

and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-

most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...what-ever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gour-



met cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

SPORTS

Ferguson:
Zaha needs
time

Wilfried Zaha

MANCHESTER, United Kingdom (AFP) - Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has told supporters not to expect too much too soon from new signing Wilfried Zaha.

Young England winger Zaha, 20, was undergoing a medical in Manchester on Friday ahead of a £15m (17.5 million euros) move from Championship club Crystal Palace.

The 20-year-old forward has agreed a five-and-a-half year deal but is being loaned back to Palace until the summer.

United will pay £10m (11.7 million euros) up front, with the fee potentially rising to £15m based on Zaha's appearances and success.

"We like to sign young players with potential," said Ferguson. "We can develop players well as we have proved many times so hopefully the boy will enjoy it coming here."

"He's a winger, only a young lad, 20-years-of-age so we will see."

Zaha, who joined Palace as a 12-year-old, is expected to win his second England cap against Brazil in February.

And after the conclusion of drawn out talks, Zaha told his Twitter followers: "WOW I am so excited, its been a very exhausting day, but at last delighted to end all speculation THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH for your support."

Zaha was named the Football League Young Player of the Year last season and attracted the attention of a number of Premier League clubs.

Zaha, who came through the youth academy at Selhurst Park, has scored 15 goals in 124 appearances for the Eagles since his debut against Cardiff in March 2010.

Meanwhile, winger Ashley Young (knee) and Jonny Evans (hamstring) have returned to training but will not be considered for United's FA Cup fourth round tie at home to Fulham today.

ISLAND HOPPING

ARUBA Beautiful Beaches

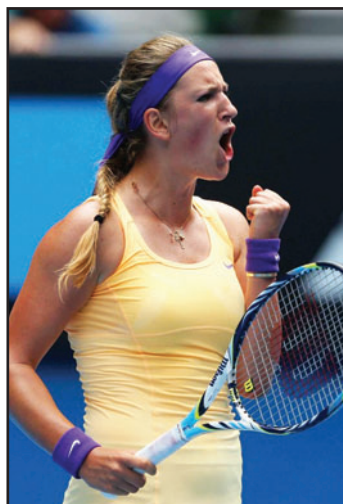
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China's Li, Azarenka set
for Australian final

Azarenka

MELBOURNE (AFP) - China's Li Na will take on world number one Victoria Azarenka as she attempts to win her second Grand Slam trophy in the Australian Open women's final later today.

Li, 30, has been in inspired form over the past fortnight, running through four seeds including Russia's four-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova on the way to her second Melbourne final.

In 2011, the Wuhan native made history on Rod Laver Arena as Asia's first Grand Slam finalist, and later that year she went one step further to become the continent's first and only major singles champion at the French Open.

The feisty right-hander, rated as the world's second-richest sportswoman by Forbes magazine, has not seriously challenged for a major title since but she is enjoying a renaissance under her new coach Carlos Rodriguez.

"Last time was more exciting, I was more nervous," said



Li

Li, who stands to become the tournament's oldest women's champion. "It was my first time to be in a (Grand Slam) final. This time, I'm more calm. More cool, a little bit."

Standing in her way is Azarenka, 23, the tall Belarusian who is defending her only Grand Slam title to date, and will extend her nearly year-long stay at the top ranking with victory over Li.

Buoyed by her win over Sharapova in last year's final, Azarenka put together a 26-match winning streak at the start of the season and narrowly lost to Serena Williams in September's gripping US Open decider.

Azarenka has been an unmissable presence in Melbourne, partly because of her trademark shriek when she hits the ball and also because she has been accompanied by colourful LMFAO frontman Redfoo.

But she courted controversy in her semi-final against teenager Sloane Stephens when she blew five match points and immediately went

off for a medical timeout. When she returned, she broke Stephens to win the match.

"It was a necessary thing for me to do," Azarenka said of the timeout, which she took for rib and knee problems.

"I just regret that I didn't take it earlier, that it got to the point that it was pretty much impossible for me to breathe and to play."

Azarenka leads their head-to-head 5-4 but she has won their last four matches. The last time Li beat the Belarusian was at the 2011 French Open, when she won in the quarter-finals en route to the trophy.

"At least this year we didn't meet," Li said. "So this is a new start. Last year she was doing well all year. It is not easy. It is a tough match. I just have to enjoy the moment."

Cool conditions and possible showers are forecast for Melbourne on Saturday, with the final scheduled to get underway at 7:30 pm (0830 GMT).

Real keeper
Casillas faces
12 weeks out

MADRID (AFP) - Real Madrid and Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas will be sidelined for eight to 12 weeks after undergoing surgery on his fractured left hand in Madrid on Friday.

"The period of unavailability is between eight and 12 weeks," doctor Miguel del Cerro said in a statement released by the La Liga club, adding that Casillas would be in a cast for approximately three weeks.

The 31-year-old suffered the injury after teammate Alvaro Arbeloa accidentally kicked his hand as he attempted a clearance during Wednesday's 1-1 draw with Valencia in the Spanish Cup.

Casillas was subsequently replaced by reserve keeper Antonio Adan and will miss Madrid's Champions League round of 16 tie with Manchester United as well as both legs of the Spanish cup semi-final against arch-rivals Barcelona.

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Tiger fires 65 to seize lead at Torrey Pines

LA JOLLA, California (AFP) - Former world number one Tiger Woods fired a seven-under par 65 on Friday to seize the clubhouse lead by three strokes during the second round of the \$6.1 million PGA Farmers Insurance Open.

Playing on the Torrey Pines layout where he has won this event six times and where he captured the most recent of his 14 major titles at the 2008 US Open, Woods fired an eagle, a bogey and six birdies on the north course.

The 37-year-old golf icon, who has struggled with injuries and an infamous sex scandal in recent years, opened with a four-under 68



on Thursday on the south course and started the second round three strokes off the pace.

Woods teed off Friday on the back nine and began with four pars in a row before a birdie at the par-5 14th hole.

He followed with a birdie at the par-3 17th and an eagle at the par-5 18th, then added birdies on the par-5 first and par-4 second holes, surging into sole possession of the lead.

Woods birdied the par-4 seventh, took his lone bogey of the round at the par-4 eighth and then finished his round with a birdie at the par-5 ninth to stand on 11-under par 133.

England's Ross Fisher, Canada's Graham DeLaet and American Josh Teater were the closest rivals to Woods, all three strokes back at eight-under. Fisher had seven holes to play while DeLaet had three holes remaining and Teater had five.

Most of the field remained on the course.

Haye out to unify heavyweight crowns

PARIS (AFP) - British boxer David Haye spoke of his intention on Friday to become the sport's undisputed heavyweight champion, priming himself for bouts against both Klitschko brothers.

Haye, 32, wants to unify all four belts and said the "best way" to achieve his goal would be to secure a bout against WBC titleholder Vitali Klitschko before a match-up with WBA, IBF and WBO king Wladimir Klitschko.

"The world needs one unified champion and I hope we can agree a fight at a football stadium in Germany this summer against Vitali," said Haye.

Haye took the WBA heavyweight title after defeating Russia's Nicolay Valuev before defending his title



on two occasions, but the Briton was on the wrong end of an unanimous decision to Wladimir Klitschko in a WBA-WBO-IBF title fight in July 2011.

Haye then subsequently retired before returning to de-

feat compatriot Dereck Chisora in London last July.

"After I have fought Vitali, I want revenge against Wladimir to be able to unify the heavyweight titles which hasn't been done in several years," he added.

Federer insists he's still on the pace

MELBOURNE (AFP) - Roger Federer dismissed suggestions he was slipping off the pace at the top of men's tennis after his five-set loss to Andy Murray in the Australian Open semi-finals on Friday.

Federer, at 31 the senior member of the 'Big Four', went down in a four-hour duel with third seed Murray as he suffered his third straight semi-final defeat in Melbourne.

But the world number two, who holds a record 17 Grand Slam titles, insisted "nothing has changed" in his match-ups against his younger rivals Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Murray.

"Well, nothing has changed. I've played these guys, what, 60 times, the three guys around me in the rankings," Federer said.

"So we know each other really well. We play each other very close very often. Keep on trading wins and

losses."

Federer said Djokovic, bidding for his fourth Australian title against Murray in Sunday's final, has taken a step forward but he said he was excited about his prospects for the year ahead.

"Novak has done probably the best job getting more wins than losses. That's why he's ranked where he is," he said.

"I enjoy the matches with Rafa (Nadal), Novak and also Andy again tonight. It's nice playing five sets against him. It was tough tennis. I enjoy that."

"So I go from here with a good feeling for the year. I didn't play a tournament leading in, so now obviously I know where my level is at."

"I also know that I have even more time to work on my game, work on my fitness this year. It's something I'm excited about."

Federer acknowledged he was always chasing in Friday's semi-final against Murray, but he said he had his chances.

"It was a tough match. I had my chances. Obviously you're going to go through a five setter with some regrets."

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Thirteen cities to host Euro 2020

NYON, Switzerland (AFP) - European football's governing body UEFA on Friday confirmed that the 2020 European Championship will be staged in 13 different cities across the continent.

UEFA's executive committee rubber-stamped the proposals, which were first made public last month, for the 2020 finals to be the first "Euro for Europe".

Previous tournaments have been held in one country or, as was the case at Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine, jointly-hosted by two neighbouring countries.

For 2020, UEFA have stipulated that there will be a maximum of one venue per country, and added that the two semi-finals and the final will all be held in the same stadium.

The remaining 12 winning bids will each host three group matches as well as one knockout tie from either the Round of 16 or the quarter-finals.

No nation will qualify automatically for the finals, but every host that qualifies will be guaranteed two home matches in the group phase.

No such guarantees would be given for the knockout stages.

UEFA also said they will try to take travel distances into account when allocating hosting teams to groups, "for example, and if feasible, with flights not exceeding two hours' duration between two host cities to allow easy access to travelling fans."

UEFA president Michel Platini insisted everything would be done to make a pan-European event -- to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the first European Nations Cup -- as fan-friendly as possible.

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